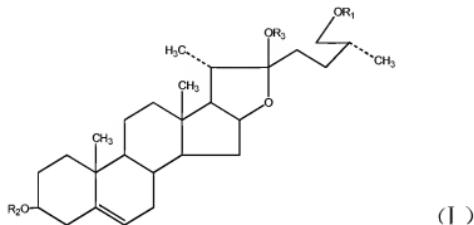


Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the specification:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A steroid saponin compound with the chemical structure of:



Wherein, $R_1 = \beta$ -D-glucose;

R₂ = straight or bifurcate sugar chains including β -D-glucose, α -D-glucose, α -L-rhamnose, β -D-galactose, α -D-galactose, β -D-mannose, α -D-mannose, β -D-arabinose, α -D-arabinose, β -D-xylose, α -D-xylose, β -D-ribose, α -D-ribose, β -D-lyxose, α -D-lyxose, α -D-fucose, and 6-deoxysugars, and 2, 6-dideozysugars corresponding to each of foresaid aldonhexoses;

$R_3 = H$ or CH_3 .

3. (previously amendment) The steroid saponins of claim 1, wherein in the chemical structure (I) :

$$R_2 = \beta\text{-D-glucose} \begin{array}{c} 2 \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \alpha\text{-L-rhamnose} \\ \quad \quad \quad 4 \end{array}$$

4. (canceled)

Claims 5-7 (canceled)

8. (previously present) The steroidal saponins of claim 1, wherein Phoysicochemical parameters are:

White powder; mp 230-233°C (dec), $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}-88.7^\circ$ (c:0.80 pyridine);

Shows positive reaction to Liebermann-Burchard, Molish and Ehrlich;

Glucose and rhamnose were detected by acid hydrolysis.

IR_{max}: 3400-3450 (OH), 2950, 1380, 1040 (glycosyl C-O);

FAB-MS: 1085 (M+Na)⁺, 1062 (M+H)⁺, 1031 (M+H-CH₃OH)⁺, 869 (M+H-CH₃OH -Glc)⁺, 723 (M+H-CH₃OH-Glc-Rha)⁺, 577 (M+H-CH₃OH-Glc-Rha×2)⁺, 415 (M+H-CH₃OH -Glc×2-Rha×2)⁺, 397 (M+H-CH₃OH-H₂O-Glc×2-Rha×2)⁺;

¹H-NMR (C₅D₅N) δ: 0.87 (3H, s, CH₃-18), 0.98 (3H, d, CH₃-27), 1.08 (3H, s, CH₃-19), 1.03 (3H, d, CH₃ -21), 1.26 (3H, d, J=6.2Hz), 1.28 (3H, d, J=6.2Hz).

¹³C-NMR: data please see Table 2.

9. (canceled)

10. (withdraw) A method for producing the steroidal saponins compound of claim 1, wherein comprising the steps of:

1) extracting fresh rhizome of Discorea nipponica with 80% ethanol by heating refluxing; then concentrating the extracted

liquid and suspending the extract in water to get dissolved portion and unsolved portion;

2) passing the dissolved portion through D101 absorbent resin column, and eluting by distilled water first, then by 10%, 50% and 95% ethanol in order;

3) concentrating the 50% ethanol eluted solution, and subjecting to silica gel column chromatography with granularity of 45~75um, then eluting by CH_3Cl , CH_3OH and H_2O mixture solution in ratio of 8 : 2.5 : 0.01, and methanol step by step; vaporizing and concentrating the eluted solution under decreased pressure, and incorporating the crystals of component fractions of 46~50, then re-crystallizing the crystals to get MPD compound.

11. (canceled)

12. (withdraw) The application of steroidal saponins compound for curing the diseases miocardial infarction, coronary artery disease, heart angina, arrhythmia, blood losing of cardiac muscle, hypertension, hyperlipaemia and ropy blood.

13. (withdraw) The application of steroidal saponins compound of claim 12, wherein said steroidal saponins is MethylProtodioscin (MPD).

14. (withdraw) The application of steroidal saponins compounds of claim 12, wherein said steroidal saponins compounds is Pseudoprotodioscin (PPD).

15. (withdraw) The application of steroidal saponins compounds of claim 12, wherein said steroidal saponins compounds is a composition of MethylProtodioscin (MPD) and Pseudoprotodioscin (PPD) .